

## Claims

1. A matrix-type display apparatus which drives a display panel including a plurality of pixels disposed in matrix form and displays an image, characterized by including:

a converting means for  $\gamma$ -converting an input video signal, using  $n$  (which is an integer of two or above) pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics which are made up of first and second  $\gamma$ -characteristics different from each other; and

a selecting means for selecting one pair of  $\gamma$ -characteristics from among the  $n$  pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics according to a transmittance to be used for display, and selecting an output supplied to the display panel from among the  $2n$  outputs which are  $\gamma$ -corrected by the converting means, so that a first distribution area ratio of pixels driven by the video signal  $\gamma$ -corrected by use of the first  $\gamma$ -characteristic of the selected pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics and a second distribution area ratio of pixels driven by the video signal  $\gamma$ -corrected by use of the second  $\gamma$ -characteristic of the selected pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics are equal to a distribution area ratio specified in advance for the selected pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics.

2. The matrix-type display apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the selecting means selects an output supplied to the display panel from among the  $2n$  outputs which

are  $\gamma$ -corrected by the converting means, so that the first distribution area ratio and the second distribution area ratio are equal to the distribution area ratio in a block unit of  $(n+1)$  pixels per block.

3. The matrix-type display apparatus according to claim 2, characterized in that the first distribution area ratio and the second distribution area ratio for each pair of  $\gamma$ -characteristics are selected out of  $k/(n+1)$  and  $(1-k)/(n+1)$ , if  $k$  is an integer of one to  $n$ .

4. The matrix-type display apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

each pixel of the display panel is made up of, as one pixel, a first sub-pixel which has a first pixel area  $S_a$  and a second sub-pixel which has a second pixel area  $S_b (=m \times S_a, \text{ herein, } m > 1)$ ; and

the selecting means selects an output supplied to the display panel from among the  $2n$  outputs which are  $\gamma$ -corrected by the converting means, so that the first distribution area ratio and the second distribution area ratio are equal to the distribution area ratio in a block unit of the one pixel per block.

5. The matrix-type display apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that the first distribution area ratio

and the second  $\gamma$ -distribution area ratio for each pair of  $\gamma$ -characteristics are selected out of  $1/(m+1)$  and  $m/(m+1)$ .

6. The matrix-type display apparatus according to claim 5, characterized in that the second pixel area  $S_b$  satisfies the relation of  $1.5S_a \leq S_b \leq 3S_a$ .

7. The matrix-type display apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

each pixel of the display panel is made up of, as one pixel, a first sub-pixel which has a first pixel area  $S_a$  and a second sub-pixel which has a second pixel area  $S_b (=m \times S_a, \text{ herein, } m > 1)$ ; and

the selecting means selects an output supplied to the display panel from among the  $2n$  outputs which are  $\gamma$ -corrected using each  $\gamma$ -characteristic by the converting means, so that the first distribution area ratio and the second distribution area ratio are equal to the distribution area ratio in a block unit of the two pixels per block.

8. The matrix-type display apparatus according to claim 7, characterized in that the first distribution area ratio and the second  $\gamma$ -distribution area ratio for each pair of  $\gamma$ -characteristics are selected from among  $1/(2+2m)$ ,  $m/(2+2m)$ ,  $2/(2+2m)$ ,  $(1+m)/(2+2m)$ ,  $2m/(2+2m)$ ,  $(2+m)/(2+2m)$ , and  $(2m+1)/(2+2m)$ .

9. The matrix-type display apparatus according to claim 8, characterized in that the second pixel area  $S_b$  satisfies the relation of  $1.2S_a \leq S_b \leq 2S_a$ .

10. The matrix-type display apparatus according to any of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the selecting means selects an output supplied to the display panel from among the  $2n$  outputs which are  $\gamma$ -corrected by the converting means, in a unit of one pixel made up of an R-pixel, a G-pixel and a B-pixel.

11. The matrix-type display apparatus according to any of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the selecting means selects an output supplied to the display panel from among the  $2n$  outputs which are  $\gamma$ -corrected by the converting means, for each of an R-pixel, a G-pixel and a B-pixel which are each set as one pixel.

12. The matrix-type display apparatus according to any of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the display panel is a liquid-crystal display panel.

13. A driving method for a matrix-type display apparatus which drives a display panel including a plurality of pixels disposed in matrix form and displays an image, characterized

by including:

a converting step of  $\gamma$ -converting an input video signal, using  $n$  (which is an integer of two or above) pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics which are made up of first and second  $\gamma$ -characteristics different from each other; and

a selecting step of selecting one pair of  $\gamma$ -characteristics from among the  $n$  pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics according to a transmittance to be used for display, and selecting an output supplied to the display panel from among the  $2n$  outputs which are  $\gamma$ -corrected in the converting step, so that a first distribution area ratio of pixels driven by the video signal  $\gamma$ -corrected by use of the first  $\gamma$ -characteristic of the selected pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics and a second distribution area ratio of pixels driven by the video signal  $\gamma$ -corrected by use of the second  $\gamma$ -characteristic of the selected pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics are equal to a distribution area ratio specified in advance for the selected pairs of  $\gamma$ -characteristics.